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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I'm hoping this letter won't fall on deaf ears like all of the comments your system "lost" during the Net Neutrality request for comments.

As a software engineer, the country having access to cheap, reliable Internet is essential to my industry's success (and the US's relevance in the tech field for years to come). In order for this to happen, there has to be competition at the ISP level, which, for the largest part, is not the case in the United States. Currently, there is exactly 1 ISP in my area -- AT&T owns all the internet infrastructure and they have had no incentive to upgrade it at all. Competition would both lower the rates and increase the service. I live in the middle of Los Angeles. This isn't acceptable. My internet gets an F on Speedtest.net -- it's slower than 90% of the country. The established nationwide ISPs don't need more power.

There's a reason the US is behind most other developed countries in terms of internet coverage, speed, and price, and it's the lack of competition. Government-granted monopolies to companies like Comcast have no incentive to improve.

I fully support broadband competition and strongly encourage you to do the same. Please do not allow the lobbyists to strongarm you!

Ben Baral